

US FOREST SERVICE NORTHWEST MONTANA BACKCOUNTRY AVALANCHE ADVISORY



FOR THE GLACIER PARK AND FLATHEAD & KOOTENAI NATIONAL FOREST AREAS

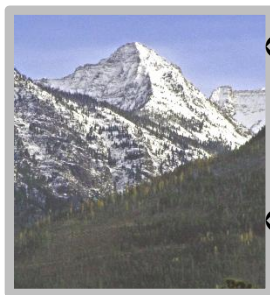
Avalanche advisory does not apply to developed ski areas

SPECIAL BACKCOUNTRY AVALANCHE WARNING

Issue Date: 12:00 PM, Wednesday, February 22, 2012
Valid Until: Midnight, Wednesday, February 22, 2012
Next Update: Friday, February 24, 2012
Issued by: Stan Bones

This advisory is a product of the US Forest Service, US Dept. of Agriculture. Along with other snow and avalanche information, it is originally posted at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/flathead>. An audio summary is available via telephone at 406-257-8402

All Mountain Ranges



7,500 ft. elevation



4,500 ft. elevation

Avalanche Danger Summary

4 -High : Between 4,500 and 7,500 ft.
elevation on all steep, open slopes
and gullies

AVALANCHE – INSTABILITY DESCRIPTION

All Mountain Ranges – Between 4,500 and 7,500 ft.
elevation

Danger Level	4 – HIGH
Confidence	Fair
Travel Advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Very dangerous avalanche conditions existTravel in avalanche terrain NOT recommended
Likelihood of Avalanches	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Natural avalanches likelyHuman triggered avalanches very likely
Avalanche Size & Distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Large avalanches in many areasVery large avalanches in specific areas

Because of wind, rapidly warming temperatures, and locally heavy precipitation in the form of rain or snow, the avalanche danger is currently rated HIGH. Travel in avalanche terrain is not recommended until the current snowpack has time to settle and strengthen. Reports are that both natural and triggered avalanches are occurring in many of the regions mountains.

The weather forecast is for another strong Pacific weather system to impact our region this weekend.

Because of the general nature of this advisory message, each backcountry party will always need to make their own time and site specific avalanche hazard evaluations. This advisory best describes conditions at the time of its issuance. As time passes avalanche and snow conditions may change, sometimes quite rapidly. Elevation and geographic distinctions used are approximate and transition zones between hazards exist.